

REMARKS

Claims 2-8 and 10-16 are presently active.

In the Office Action dated 28 July 2003 ("Office Action"), claims 1 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Inoue, et al., US patent 5,926,238 ("Inoue"); and claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue. Claims 2-8 and 10-16 were allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 2-8 and 10-16. Claims 1 and 9 are cancelled by this Amendment to put the case into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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